

09/926359

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
 KAZUO SANO ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION  
 SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION :  
 (Based on PCT/JP01/01316)  
 FILED: HEREWITH :  
 FOR: METHOD FOR EVALUATING :  
 REPRODUCIBILITY OF TONING :  
 SAMPLE BY CCM :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 5 and 9 as follows:

5. (Amended) The method for evaluating the reproducibility of a toning sample by CCM according to claim 1, wherein evaluation is performed based on the difference of color specification value such as  $\Delta L^*a^*b^*$  corresponding to the difference of spectral reflectance  $\Delta R-n$  or the difference of spectral transmittance  $\Delta T-n$ , statistical value such as maximum, minimum and standard deviation of the difference of color specification value and the color difference as well as the color difference calculated from the statistical value.

9. (Amended) The method for evaluating a toning sample according to claim 7, wherein the difference of color specification value or color difference obtained based on the difference  $\Delta R-n$  is used in place of the above difference  $\Delta R-n$ , or the difference of color specification value or color difference obtained based on the difference  $\Delta T-n$  is used in place of the  $\Delta T-n$ .

Please add new Claims 10-16 as follows:

10. (New) The method for evaluating the reproducibility of a toning sample by CCM according to claim 2, wherein evaluation is performed based on the difference of color specification value such as  $\Delta L^*a^*b^*$  corresponding to the difference of spectral reflectance  $\Delta R-n$  or the difference of spectral transmittance  $\Delta T-n$ , statistical value such as maximum, minimum and standard deviation of the difference of color specification value and the color difference as well as the color difference calculated from the statistical value.

11. (New) A method for evaluating the reproducibility of a toning sample by CCM, which comprises incorporating the method for evaluating the reproducibility of a toning sample as defined in claim 10 into a CCM software and calculating the coloring agent recipe by CCM system and, thereby, the reproducibility can be confirmed.

12. (New) The method for evaluating the reproducibility of a toning sample by CCM according to claim 3, wherein evaluation is performed based on the difference of color specification value such as  $\Delta L^*a^*b^*$  corresponding to the difference of spectral reflectance  $\Delta R-n$  or the difference of spectral transmittance  $\Delta T-n$ , statistical value such as maximum, minimum and standard deviation of the difference of color specification value and the color difference as well as the color difference calculated from the statistical value.

13. (New) A method for evaluating the reproducibility of a toning sample by CCM, which comprises incorporating the method for evaluating the reproducibility of a toning

sample as defined in claim 12 into a CCM software and calculating the coloring agent recipe by CCM system and, thereby, the reproducibility can be confirmed.

14. (New) The method for evaluating the reproducibility of a toning sample by CCM according to claim 4, wherein evaluation is performed based on the difference of color specification value such as  $\Delta L^*a^*b^*$  corresponding to the difference of spectral reflectance  $\Delta R-n$  or the difference of spectral transmittance  $\Delta T-n$ , statistical value such as maximum, minimum and standard deviation of the difference of color specification value and the color difference as well as the color difference calculated from the statistical value.

15. (New) A method for evaluating the reproducibility of a toning sample by CCM, which comprises incorporating the method for evaluating the reproducibility of a toning sample as defined in claim 14 into a CCM software and calculating the coloring agent recipe by CCM system and, thereby, the reproducibility can be confirmed.

16. (New) The method for evaluating a toning sample according to claim 8, wherein the difference of color specification value or color difference obtained based on the difference  $\Delta R-n$  is used in place of the above difference  $\Delta R-n$ , or the difference of color specification value or color difference obtained based on the difference  $\Delta T-n$  is used in place of the  $\Delta T-n$ .

#### REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to cancel the multiple dependencies in Claims 5 and 9. The subject matter of those cancelled multiple dependencies is also set forth in new dependent Claims 10-16.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Amendment Filed on:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 5 and 9 as follows:

--5. (Amended) The method for evaluating the reproducibility of a toning sample by CCM according to [any one of claims] claim 1[-4], wherein evaluation is performed based on the difference of color specification value such as  $\Delta L^*a^*b^*$  corresponding to the difference of spectral reflectance  $\Delta R-n$  or the difference of spectral transmittance  $\Delta T-n$ , statistical value such as maximum, minimum and standard deviation of the difference of color specification value and the color difference as well as the color difference calculated from the statistical value.

9. (Amended) The method for evaluating a toning sample according to claim 7 [or 8], wherein the difference of color specification value or color difference obtained based on the difference  $\Delta R-n$  is used in place of the above difference  $\Delta R-n$ , or the difference of color specification value or color difference obtained based on the difference  $\Delta T-n$  is used in place of the  $\Delta T-n$ --

Claims 10-16. (New) .